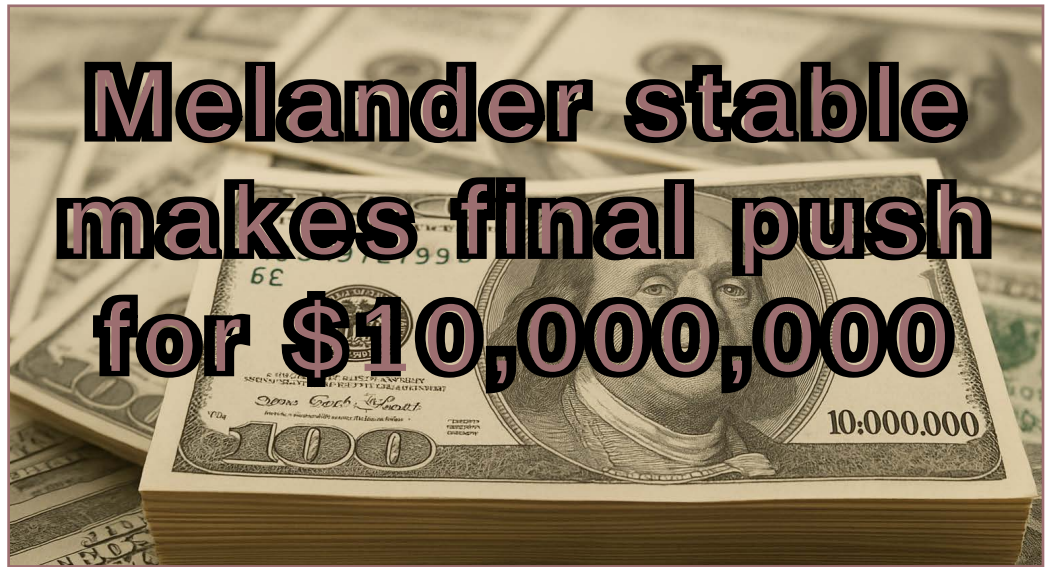


THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025

Melander stable makes final push for \$10,000,000



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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James MacDonald captures 2025 World Driving Championship

Abuckabett Hanover retirement ceremony on Saturday

Comments? Questions?
Email the Editor DGiwner@DRF.com



JAYWALKING

By Jay Bergman [X BergmanJay](#)

While catching the machine that is the Ron Burke stable as that trainer marches towards the incredible number of \$30 million in seasonal earnings, trainer Marcus Melander's stable hopes to put the finishing touches this weekend on what could be a very impressive \$10 million dollar year to rank second in the nation. The 33-year-old has horses favored in the Matron Stakes action at Dover Downs on Thursday and a host of contenders in Saturday's stakes extravaganza at The Meadowlands. With multiple entries in those races and good fortune, the magic number is clearly in range.

"Even at \$9 million it's been a great year," said Melander, acknowledging the accomplishment which by far is the best season of his career. "We've got chances to add to it this weekend."

The stable has had top horses in pretty much every trotting division while broadening its reach with extensions in Ohio and Indiana. That has helped him inch closer to the magic \$10 million mark which only three trainers in the history of

the sport - Ron Burke, Mickey Burke and Jimmy Taktar - have accomplished.

"I'm especially proud of the earnings per start number this year," said Melander.

With 608 starters as of Wednesday (November 12), the average was \$15,343, a number that was up from his 2024 figures. Key to any statistic though is the number of horses sent to post and this year Melander's stable has sent out over 33 percent more starters than in 2024 while maintaining the standards of excellence they have for some time.

Melander will send out a solid one-two punch in Thursday's Matron, with Breeders Crown top finishers Meshuggah and Super Chapter starting from posts one and two respectively in the \$163K sophomore colt and gelding trot. It will be the final start of the year for the pair, with both perhaps going their separate ways in 2026.

"I'm thankful that Anders (Ström-Courant Stable) wants him to race in the States next year. He's eligible to plenty of stakes in Sweden," said Melander of Meshuggah.

The victory in the Breeders Crown as a major longshot surprised those wagering and others in the sport but not Melander. "He's been getting better and his gait has cleaned up," Melander said of the son of Greenshoe.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 3](#)

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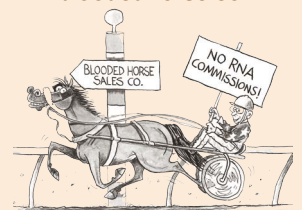


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Melander is now uncertain about the exact future of both Super Chapter and Maryland for next year but suggested that picture would likely clear up in the next 30 days. "They are going to be tested and we'll see," said Melander, recognizing the obvious stud value each has with the sport anxious to generate more extensions of the Chapter Seven line.

For his part Melander has been a walking billboard for Chapter Seven pretty much every year he has sent out horses on the racetrack. With Super Chapter, Maryland and this year's 2-year-old Breeders Crown champion Spencer Hanover the long list of champions continues to grow.

"He's the best sire out there," said Melander of Chapter Seven. "His horses seem to fit our program."

With yearling sales now complete, expect to see a few more sons and daughters of Chapter Seven emerge in 2026. "We've got four fillies and four colts," said Melander when asked about the next chapter of his association with the sport's top trotting stallion.

Spencer Hanover will be making his 13th start in Saturday's G1 \$421,000 Valley Victory at The Meadowlands but his trainer feels that the \$450,000 Lexington Selected yearling from 2024 is every bit as good if not better than he's been earlier this season.

"He came out of the Breeders Crown feeling great, otherwise we wouldn't have brought him back for this," said Melander. Asked about the number of starts: "He made breaks in some of those races so it's really the equivalent of eight or nine starts."

Spencer Hanover added hobbles prior to the Big Apple Trot on October 4 at Vernon Downs and since has completely turned around a winless season with three consecutive scores in the Big Apple final and then a sweep of the Breeders Crown elimination and final at Woodbine Mohawk Park.

"I'm not happy with post nine," said Melander prior to his horse moving into the eight hole due to a scratch. "But I think he'll be able to find a spot leaving and race well."

Jason Bartlett has done a masterful job of his own behind Spencer Hanover putting him in positions to win, but the task will be a little more challenging this Saturday given the post position edge Diabolic Hill (post 6) has on him. Also a Crown elimination winner, Diabolic Hill tracked Spencer Hanover's cover in the \$700,000 Breeders Crown final on October 24 and finished a solid second.

Melander will send out two others in the Valley Victory, with Nix Nacken (post 1) and American Power (post 4) also looking to get a decent chunk of the large purse and add to the stable coffers.

"He's a solid horse," said Melander of Nix Nacken, a Grand Circuit winner at The Red Mile that has been first or second in half of his 10 starts this season.

The well-bred American Power has shown promise this year while racing at a much lower level in the tiered Kentucky stakes races. "He's coming along well but he's going to need a trip," said Melander of the Walner-sired colt from the champion race mare Ariana G.

An outside draw in the G1 \$462,000 Goldsmith Maid hardly dims the chances for Nezuko Kamado S, a filly by Chapter Seven that entered the Breeders Crown on a major roll but had her winning streak snapped with a third-place finish.

"I thought she raced great in the Breeders Crown," said Melander. "Scottie (Zeron) followed Dexter (Dunn) up to the lead and she just got too aggressive at that point. I know it wasn't Scott's idea to go that fast."

Nezuko Kamado S suffered in the late stages following a huge middle-half clocking and lost the Crown to Storybook Love, a filly she had defeated weeks earlier in the Big Apple Trot for juvenile fillies. Melander didn't appear concerned that his filly needed any major equipment changes following the Crown. "She raced from off the pace in the eliminations and won so we'll see," said Melander.

The Goldsmith Maid, race six at The Meadowlands on Saturday, may see Melander's filly favored, with Jim Doherty Memorial winner Atlantic Summer (post 5) and the improving Busy Miss Lissy S (post 8) serious contenders.

Melander will have two chances to pick up sizeable checks in the G1 \$350,000 FanDuel Championship (race 10) for Open trotters, with Periculum (post 4) and Aetos Kronos S (post 7) well-spotted against eight others in one of the most competitive races of the year.

"I was happy with the way they qualified," said Melander of the pair that both trotted in 1:52 and change in a race held at The Meadowlands on November 8. "Outside of the International where he was boxed in Periculum has been first or second in every start this year."



NEW IMAGE MEDIA

Breeders Crown winner Spencer Hanover has to overcome post eight to capture the \$421,000 Valley Victory final on Saturday at The Meadowlands.

"He's had another big year and I expect him to race well."

Periculum will be returning to race again in 2026 for Melander.

"Aetos Kronos S wasn't eligible to the Breeders Crown so he really needed that qualifier," said Melander, who has guided the 9-year-old by Bold Eagle to a solid campaign in his first year racing in North America.

The FanDuel features Crown upset winner French Wine (post 8) along with the division leader Lexus Kody (post 6) and the classy Logan Park (post 2), who finally benefits from a solid draw coming off his fastest win of the year, a 1:50 4/5 score on November 2 at Woodbine Mohawk Park.

No matter the results this weekend it's been an incredible year for a Marcus Melander stable that shows no signs of slowing down and should continue to expand its presence across North America for years to come.

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Are we breeding too many horses or is there another problem?



CONFESSIONS

By Keith Gisser

It's mid-November. The yearling sales are over. Oh, no. Wait! They're not. The late-November Blooded Horse Sales Company will have a black-type yearling session since several Ohio-breds were sick and had to be withdrawn from the Buckeye state's premier sale. Then in December, the North American Standardbred Mixed Sale will also offer yearlings. The sales season started in late August and now lasts four full months. By my count, over 3,000 yearlings have been auctioned, with nearly half being sold at Lexington and Harrisburg. The third day of Harrisburg had some real winners, but dozens of babies sold for less than their stud fee. Many small breeders took a bloodbath.

Bill Donnelly, an Ohio breeder, had three sell at Harrisburg. All three had decent pedigree and good videos, but sold poorly. "I sent three through the ring at Harrisburg (all on day three) and lost money on two. I didn't come in with an expectation of a great sale. One did okay, considering the sale and the market."

Timing is important. While some yearlings need the extra time to mature (Harrisburg is six weeks after Lexington and two months after the Ohio Select sale, for example), some owners are out of money by Harrisburg. Anthony MacDonald of thestable.ca may have stolen Hannelore Hanover's Walner yearling for \$27,000, but had that colt sold earlier in the year, or in the sale, he would have easily brought twice that. Granted the great mare's first two foals have not been great, but if MacDonald had bought this one a month earlier, I would have taken a piece. I'm small-time guy who was out of yearling capital after the Buckeye Classic sale a month earlier.

I strongly believe we are breeding too many horses. And yet, in the aged ranks, many tracks are racing short fields. What gives? As our sport gets faster and faster, a lot of these babies just don't make it as racehorses. And a lot of those fillies get bred. Just because we can does not mean we should.

One of the things I learned (and I am a novice in the breeding game) from talking to experts for previous articles this fall was that they look for a mare who was a good racehorse. Sure, sometimes a well-bred filly gets injured and then bred, but many mares are being bred despite a lack of performance and a borderline pedigree.

The Heartland Standardbred Sale in Minnesota sold over 100 yearlings this year. Many of the dams were unraced and of iffy pedigree. And regular readers know I am a big supporter of the Minnesota program. I even bought a piece of a pacing colt up there this year. Not only do they race a short season up in the Land of 10,000 Lakes, but there are literally not enough stalls in the state to house all those babies. Granted, there are stalls in Iowa and Wisconsin, and The Meadows has become Running Aces South with Brady Jenson, Alexia Kehl and Sean Smitheters moving their tack there (among others). I worry we have reached critical mass.

Anthony MacDonald disagrees. In a social media post, he said:

"I read a lot this week about the sale (Harrisburg) being 'light' and this may be from having too many sales, or even too many horses possibly being a factor.

"I respectfully disagree. The current issue with our industry is not too many horses, it's not enough owners, and it has been for decades. We simply don't produce enough new owners, and haven't since we have been out of the immediate eyeline of the general public. As an industry we do very little to change that very important component of supply and demand. We talk about it an awful lot, but do little to nothing to combat it."

But when you look more closely, we don't really disagree. Tomato/Tomahto. We both agree it is a supply and demand issue. I say it is supply, but he says it is demand. And we agree that something needs to change.

As Harlan Nolt, who leads the partnership that stands World At War Deo in Minnesota, said, "It will straighten itself out in a few years. It happened at some of the other sales. I think breeders will get rid of their lower quality mares."

MacDonald and his program have brought hundreds of new owners into the business (thestable.ca currently has over 900 clients). But there

are other fractional groups. The Go For Glory Stable fractional group just won a Massachusetts Breeder's Final with Geologic and a few years back the Sandstone Social Group won the Minnesota 3-year-old filly trot. I am even running fractionals on a couple of horses and have brought a few new people into the business (although my grandkids probably don't count). One of the unintended benefits of these fractional groups and their popularity is that many trainers will now willingly accept five or 10 percent partners, whereas not that long ago I was regularly shut down offering to be a 20 percent partner. Bookkeeping software is getting better and the fractional trend will continue to grow. The tide is turning as more small owners enter the business.

But I am sorry. Too many babies are being bred and the prices show that. At Harrisburg, some second- and third-day Walners did not bring his stud fee, and he is arguably the hottest trotting stallion we have. Maybe they were not outstanding individuals (I watched a few videos and thought they were decent), but when a stallion breeds a full book, there will be some misses.

And that does not mean I am advocating for a smaller breeding limit. The top stallions fill their books, so cutting from 140 or 150 to 120 might not make a difference and it would cost their syndicators money. Mid-level stallions don't fill their books and low-level stallions probably should not be standing. As Charles Taylor of Standing Stallions once told me regarding breeding in Ohio: "Everyone wants to breed to Downbytheseaside or Catch The Fire, but not everyone can afford to. There will always be a demand for racehorses and mid-level stallions can fill that need."

Anthony MacDonald is right. We absolutely need more owners and we need the tracks to jump in and help with this (witness the Running Aces Summer Fling fractional program, which has created on-track excitement and several new owners).

But I think I am right too. We need to breed fewer horses, too.

That's it for this time. Now, instead of cashing at the windows, go buy a piece of a yearling.



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Burke with usual strong hand for Saturday's Big M stakes

By Jay Bergman

Though his top 2-year-old pacers landed on the extreme outside of the starting gate, the sport's leading trainer Ron Burke didn't sound that downcast speaking about his stable's chances in Saturday's \$357,000 G1 Three Diamonds and \$334,000 G1 Governor's Cup at The Meadowlands. Perhaps the key reason was the presence of Breeders Crown champion Loua Dipa in the Three Diamonds and the impeccably-bred Ubrute in the Governor's Cup.

"Post ten shouldn't be a problem for her," said Burke of Loua Dipa, a homebred daughter of Sweet Lou that has won nine of her 12 starts this year and has imposed her will on the division with apparently only stablemates threatening her reign atop the division. Driver Ron Wrenn Jr. has calmly utilized her talents racing from both on and off the pace with the same effectiveness.

"She was just ok training down," said Burke of the filly. "Then when it came time to qualifying, she showed something else." That something has made her into a World Champion, with Saturday's contest wrapping up a campaign that also saw her capture the Shes A Great Lady in commanding style.

With three other fillies in the Three Diamonds final (race 8), Burke's lone concern for a challenge to Loua Dipa's supremacy comes from She's A Bulldog. The runner-up in the Breeders Crown from the first crop of Bulldog Hanover has had a different arc to her season than others from the stable but has never been better than her recent form.

"Training down we thought she was our best filly," said Burke of She's A Bulldog. "Things just didn't work out for her, so we gave her a break and brought her back. I had one of my assistants drive her in a qualifier (Meadows September 30) and she paced in 1:54, and he thought she could have gone in 1:52."



NEW IMAGE MEDIA

Trainer Ron Burke won a Breeders Crown with Loua Dipa this year and hopes she can capture the Three Diamonds on Saturday.

She's A Bulldog reached the Ontario Sire Stakes Final essentially because not enough horses entered and put in a huge mile finishing second, caught behind another Burke-trained filly that couldn't keep pace. Though Loua Dipa dominated in the Breeders Crown, She's A Bulldog was a strong second.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 9](#)

A close-up photograph of a brown yearling horse's head, looking slightly to the left. The horse has a dark mane and a light-colored nose.

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"It's hard to believe that she's still a maiden," said Burke of the homebred that has banked more than \$200k.

Seaside Shuffle (post 4) and I'm A Lou Lou (post 8) have enjoyed solid seasons of their own, with Burke pointing out one change to I'm A Lou Lou for this start. "We've added Lasix for her, and I think it will make a big difference," said Burke of the filly that was recently a close second in the Matron after a brutal journey.



AMANDA STEPHENS

Ubrute has to overcome post 10 to win the Governor's Cup on Saturday at The Meadowlands.

In the Governor's Cup (race 9) Burke believes Ubrute may be ready to shine. "I think the big track will help him a lot," said Burke of the son of Tall Dark Stranger and Warrawee Ubeaut. "He's been racing well and got parked in a race with Beau Jangles on the lead, and that didn't work out."

Ubrute has already captured the \$400,000 Kentucky Championships at The Red Mile this year in a 1:49 4/5 mile defeating some of the top 2-year-old colts in the country. While the outside draw may not be great, driver Yannick Gingras will certainly make sure the colt gets a trip closer to the action despite starting from post 10.

Melillo is yet another Sweet Lou-sired homebred that has raced with distinction this year for the stable. Third to Beau Jangles in the \$700,000 Breeders Crown final at Woodbine Mohawk Park on October 24, Melillo faded to fourth in the Matron Stakes at Dover Downs on November 6 but his trainer was not overly concerned with the result. "The track at Dover is usually speed favoring, but on that night it just wasn't for any of my horses," said Burke.

Ever the astute race-watcher, Burke is concerned about a horse that did race well in the Matron that he will have to deal with in the Governor's Cup. "I thought Fragment raced really well at Dover," said Burke of the Matron champion that will be making his 16th start of the year for trainer Per Engblom and somehow looks as fresh and ready now in November.

Fragment, a son of Huntsville (second in the 2016 Governor's Cup) has won nine times this year, following up a New York Sire Stakes championship season with a victory in the \$250,000 Big Apple Pace at Vernon Downs on October 11. Fragment starts from post four on Saturday.

It's been a fabulous season for Lexus Kody. The \$1 million MGM Yonkers International Trot champion has maintained his form into November and enters Saturday's \$350,000 G1 FanDuel Championship (race 10) hoping to add to his \$1,151,401 seasonal bankroll and perhaps make his last case for Trotter and Horse of the Year titles. Lexus Kody drew post six and that suits his trainer well.

"I think it's a perfect spot for him and Yannick (Gingras) can do whatever he wants," said Burke of his outlook for Lexus Kody. "The trip just didn't work out in the Breeders Crown, but he still raced well."

Lexus Kody was parked without cover most of the way in the Breeders Crown, but that trip helped rivals French Wine (the race winner) and Periculum get the cover they needed, and only those two passed him in the home-stretch. That rivalry will be renewed on Saturday with Periculum (post 4) landing inside of Lexus Kody and French Wine (post 8) to his outside.

In addition to his International Trot wire-to-wire victory going one and one-quarter miles at Yonkers, Lexus Kody has also captured the Maple

Leaf Trot at Woodbine Mohawk Park, the Caesars Trotting Classic at Hoosier Park as well as the Dayton Trotting Derby during his explosive second half of the stakes season.

Breeders Crown champion French Wine enters the FanDuel final following a personal-best 1:50 1/5 effort in the \$600,000 Breeders Crown on October 25. The 5-year-old by Bar Hopping was making just his fourth start since joining the Nancy Takter stable and has shown improvement with each race.

Logan Park and Hillexotic have both been hampered by poor draws in many of the recent stakes but find themselves in good spots on Saturday. Logan Park (post 2) drew post eight for the Breeders Crown final and post 10 in the elimination. Hillexotic (post 3) had to start from post nine in the Crown final after he drew post seven for the elimination.

The Meadowlands' 14-race card starts at 6:20 PM and includes eight stakes races in total worth \$2.6 million.



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Zeron looks to finish up strong in Dover, Meadowlands stakes

By Ken Weingartner

As the Grand Circuit season heads toward the finish line – this is the final week with multiple races on the schedule – driver Scott Zeron finds himself reunited with a number of recent graded stakes winners for action at Bally's Dover and The Meadowlands.

Zeron will reconnect with Meshuggah and Captain Optimistic in Matron Stakes finals for 3-year-olds at Bally's Dover on Thursday followed by a group that includes stakes-winners Twin B Seven Sins, Maximus Miki and Periculum for Saturday's Fall Final Four/FanDuel Championships at The Meadowlands.

Meshuggah, who with Zeron lit up the tote board at 62-1 in the Breeders Crown last month, is the 7-2 second choice on the morning line in the \$163,050 Matron Stakes for 3-year-old male trotters, a Grade 3 race. He has won two of his past three starts, both in 1:50 1/5, for trainer Marcus Melander.

His 1:50 1/5 score in the Breeders Crown at Woodbine Mohawk Park on Oct. 25 was a stakes record and the biggest upset in the history of 3-year-old male trot final. It also gave Zeron a Breeders Crown triumph for the sixth consecutive year, the second-longest current streak for a driver behind only Dexter Dunn's seven.

For the year, Meshuggah has hit the board in seven of 13 races, including three wins and three seconds, and earned \$551,165 to increase his lifetime purses to \$874,533. The son of Greenshoe-Starita will leave from post one in the Matron.

"It's probably not the most advantageous spot to have at Dover, but he's coming into it in great form," Zeron said. "If you watched him closely, or maybe you had to sit behind him like I did, his last few starts (prior to the Breeders Crown) he was in great form. He was a bit of a product of racing all year against maybe one of the best crops of 3-year-old trotters, but he raced well, even if he might not have been winning.

"He's extremely professional to drive. He makes my job easy by having great manners. Hopefully, we can follow up the great victory we had in the Breeders Crown with another one here."

Meshuggah's millionaire stablemate Super Chapter, who finished second in the Breeders Crown, is the 5-2 morning-line favorite in the Matron. He will start from post two with Dunn in the sulky for Melander.

Captain Optimistic, who won the Monument Circle (G2) at Harrah's Hoosier Park in his most recent start on Oct. 31, is the 9-2 third choice in the \$149,350 Matron Stakes for 3-year-old male pacers. Captain Optimistic, a son of Captaintreacherous-Cinamony trained by Nancy Takter, also counts the Cane Pace among his five victories this season. He has hit the board a total of 13 times in 17 races, including third-place finishes in the Breeders Crown and Little Brown Jug finals, and earned \$571,210.

"He's just a model of consistency," Zeron said. "If he hasn't been winning, he's been knocking on the door and put forth some really good efforts. I've only sat behind him the back half of his year, but he's a super nice horse to drive. He's a great athlete. You never know how a horse is going to come out of the Little Brown Jug, but he's been great ever since. I really like his spot on Thursday."

Captain Optimistic will start the Matron from post four. Breeders Crown runner-up Dandy Ideal, the 5-2 morning-line favorite, will leave from post five with Jason Bartlett driving for trainer Hunter Oakes. Prince Hal Hanover, the 7-2 second choice, will go from post six with Todd McCarthy driving for trainer Ian Moore.

Dover also hosts Grade 2 Matrons for 3-year-old female trotters and

pacers on Thursday. Monalishi is the 5-2 morning-line favorite in the \$132,350 trot event (with Zeron driving Highlandstarburst, 12-1) and Rodeo Drive Deo is the 5-2 choice in the \$130,350 pace event.

On Saturday at The Meadowlands, Zeron will be behind two of this year's four richest older horses, pacer Maximus Miki and trotter Periculum, in Grade 1 FanDuel finals.

Six-year-old Maximus Miki heads to the \$350,000 FanDuel Open Pace Championship off a win in the Potomac Pace (G3) on Nov. 2 at Rosecroft Raceway. The Tom Cancelliere trainee has also captured the Canadian Pacing Derby, Hoosier Park Pacing Derby, and a division of the William R. Haughton Memorial this season on his way to \$605,608 in earnings.

He will leave from post four in the FanDuel, which also features Breeders Crown champ Ervin Hanover (the richest older pacer this season, with \$844,718) as well as fellow graded stakes winners Captain Albano, Ken Hanover and Oakwood Ardan IR, plus 2024 Dan Patch Award winner Abuckabett Hanover.

"He's been great right now," Zeron said about Maximus Miki. "He's a big horse and carries his speed so well. He's not the quickest footed among that group of horses, but when you get the big train going, he really holds that speed. He's a horse that if he's a length or two off, or maybe even three off, turning for home, he can wear one down because he won't slow down. He will maintain his speed right through the wire.

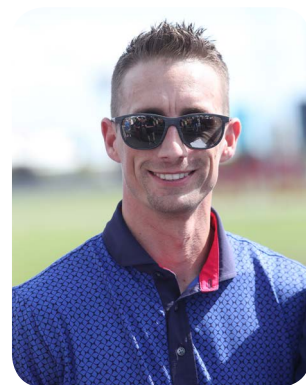
"He's been a really fun horse to sit behind. With horses like him, you don't really get nervous going into races. They're very robotic, you can do whatever you want with them, and they're very consistent. It's been a fun ride."

Periculum, a 6-year-old who has earned \$755,777 this season, has finished worse than second only once in 10 races in 2025. He won the Allegrage Open Trot (G3) in a career-best-equaling 1:49 3/5 on Oct. 5 at The Red Mile and was second in the Breeders Crown final for older trotters, a neck behind French Wine. Other victories for Periculum include the John Cashman Memorial in 1:49 3/5 on Aug. 2 at The Meadowlands.

He will leave from post four in the \$350,000 FanDuel Open Trot Championship, which also includes French Wine and millionaire Lexus Kody.

"That's a nice spot for him," Zeron said. "He qualified very well the other day (in 1:52 2/5 on Nov. 8 at The Meadowlands). He always races well. The reason he's that good is because his manners are unbelievably good. He's not a front-end horse, and he dictates that, not me. So, that's why he's been so durable. He's always getting some nice trips and staying fresh."

Zeron's other drives Saturday include Twin B Seven Sins – who won a Kindergarten Classic Series final on Nov. 1 at odds of 87-1 for Zeron and trainer Noel Daley – in the \$421,000 Valley Victory for 2-year-old male trotters, graded-stakes winner Nezuko Kamado S for trainer Melander in the \$462,000 Goldsmith Maid for 2-year-old female trotters, Perfect Thought for trainer Megan Scran in the \$357,000 Three Diamonds for 2-year-old female pacers, and Turn The Page N for trainer Heidi Cushing in the \$175,000 FanDuel Mare Pace Championship. The event for the 2-year-olds are Grade 1, the FanDuel Mare Pace is Grade 2.



NIKKI SHERMAN/DRF HARNESS

Driver Scott Zeron.



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RACE OF THE WEEK

9 MEADOWLANDS SAT

1 Mile Pace, GOVERNOR'S CUP (G1) 2 YEAR OLD COLTS & GELDINGS (DECLARATION FEE - \$2,500) Purse \$334,000

EXACTA AND TRIFECTA | 10 CENT SUPERFECTA | PICK 3 (9-10-11)

1 APOCALYPSEBLUECHIP(L)

21:54.4 (5/8) \$38,082 LEX-SEL \$100,000

br c 2, by Papi Rob Hanover, Queen Of Darkness by Roll With Joe

Country Club Acres, OH; Joe Sbrocco & Jaf Rcg, NY; Joseph Bonjornio, NJ; D Latore, OH

Last 5 Sts-\$50,900

1:54.4 Pk 5/8

25 M1

3 0 0 1

\$17,000

25 Tot

9 1 1 3

\$72,559

-24 Tot

0 0 0 0

-Life

9 1 1 3

\$72,559

10-1 J. Bongiorno

92-16-12-7 (174)

6 Nov/25 12DD fst500 263 561 1:23.2 1:52.3 MATRON 20P 122600 3 5¹/₂ 6¹/₂ 5¹/₂ 2³/₄ 2³/₄

1 Nov/25 9M1 fst500 281 571 1:24.4 1:51.2 KNDRGARTEN 125000 8 2¹/₂ 4²/₃ 5²/₃ 5³/₄ 3²/₄

24 Oct/25 7M1 fst530 282 562 1:23.4 1:51.1 KNDRGARTEN 25000 2 3²/₄ 3²/₄ 2²/₃ 2³/₄ 6³/₄

9 Oct/25 4M1 fst550 284 564 1:25.1 1:52.2 Qua 3 4⁵/₈ 4⁵/₈ 4⁴/₅ 4⁵/₈ 3⁷/₈

5 Sep/25 11Phl fst810 261 543 1:22.2 1:49.1 PaSS Final 300000 5 2¹/₂ 3³/₄ 5³/₄ 5⁶/₈ 7¹/₄

29 Aug/25 14Phl fst760 281 574 1:26.1 1:54.4 CgWn1PM 10500 3 3²/₄ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂

Br.- Blue Chip Bldst & S Demeter & S Giagni, NY

ToMcCarthy JoBongirm 273 292 264 293 1:53.2 89

JoBongirm JoBongirm 289 291 274 263 1:52 90

MaKakaley JoBongirm 284 281 271 273 1:51.4 94

ScZeron JoBongirm 294 28 281 274 1:53.4

JoBongirm JoBongirm 263 284 272 292 1:52 96

CoCallahan JoBongirm 283 291 282 283 1:54.4 84

L47.80 Fragment Apocypsb ThaiHv

L27.20 BookiesToastOffThApocypsb

L8.20 BookiesToastOffThRcknacs

Lrb BookiesToastOffThApocypsb

24.60 FranchHv AlPapi Melillo

0.05 Apocypsb TwstOffThm WhskyVerm

+8

+5.3w

+3.3w

+0.6w

+0.8w

Pkt.shl,ang,In,study-8

Rail,2w bf 3/4,no bid-7

Sat,ang,In,no bid-7

-8

-7

2 TOAST OF THE TOWN

21:51.1 (1) Q \$11,499

b c 2, by Sweet Lou, New Year by Somebeachsomewhere

Let It Ride Stbs & Odds On Rcg & Magnificent Seven Stb, FL; Morrison Rcg Stbs, PA

Last 5 Sts-\$82,296

1:51.1 M1

25 M1

3 1 2 0

\$50,000

25 Tot

9 2 3 0

\$103,491

-24 Tot

0 0 0 0

-Life

9 2 3 0

\$103,491

5-1 T. McCarthy

331-52-47-61 (157)

1 Nov/25 9M1 fst500 281 571 1:24.4 1:51.2 KNDRGARTEN 125000 5 6⁵/₈ 5²/₃ 4¹/₂ 2¹/₂ 2¹/₂

24 Oct/25 7M1 fst530 282 562 1:23.4 1:51.1 KNDRGARTEN 25000 7 6⁵/₈ 6⁵/₈ 4¹/₂ 3³/₄ 2¹/₂

12 Sep/25 7M1 fst700 281 571 1:25 1:51.1 KNDRGARTEN 25000 5 2¹/₂ 2¹/₂ 2¹/₂ 2¹/₂ 2¹/₂

5 Sep/25 11Phl fst810 261 543 1:22.2 1:49.1 PaSS Final 300000 1 4²/₃ 4⁴/₅ 3¹/₂ 3²/₄ 5⁶/₈

21 Aug/25 6Mw fst770 271 554 1:22.2 1:49.2 PASS-2YOCG 69182 5 3³/₄ 3³/₄ 3³/₄ 3³/₄ 2¹/₂

14 Aug/25 5Phl fst850 271 553 1:23.4 1:51.3 PASS-2YOCG 68783 3 4⁵/₈ 4⁵/₈ 4²/₃ 5⁴/₈ 4⁶/₈

Br.- Let It Ride Stbs Inc & Bottom Line Rcg LLC, F

ToMcCarthy NoDaley 291 283 271 262 1:51.2 96

JoAnle NoDaley 293 282 263 27 1:51.3 93

ToMcCarthy NoDaley 282 284 26 26 1:51.1 94

ToMcCarthy NoDaley 263 284 264 281 1:50.2 106

DaPalone NoDaley 273 284 263 263 1:52 110

AnMcCarthy NoDaley 281 282 273 283 1:52.4 93

2.10 BookiesToastOffThApocypsb

3.50 BookiesToastOffThRcknacs

0.30 ToastOffTh TabdAnr BookiesJ

9.60 FranchHv AlPapi Melillo

6.50 AlPapi ToastOffTh Melillo

4.60 AlPapi Melillo Apocypsb

+5.3w

+3.3w

+3.3w

+0.6w

+1.4w

2w,2nd ov,pace lane-8

2nd ov,ang,In,pace-7

Pkt,ang,In,handy-7

-8

-5

-5

3 GENTLEMANS CLUB

21:50.2 (1) Q \$9,012 LEX-SEL \$120,000

b c 2, by Downbytheseaside, See You At Peelers by Bettor's Delight

Anthony Lcastro, Eastern Creek Nsw, AS

Last 5 Sts-\$21,625

1:50.2 M1

25 M1

2 1 1 0

\$13,125

25 Tot

9 4 1 1

\$81,106

-24 Tot

0 0 0 0

-Life

9 4 1 1

\$81,106

6-1 A. McCarthy

344-57-39-41 (165)

8 Nov/25 2M1 fst550 263 543 1:22.4 1:50.2 5u w2-nw5 17500 3 4⁴/₅ 4⁴/₅ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂

25 Oct/25 12M1 fst530 264 553 1:24 1:50.4 5u w2-nw5 17500 2 3²/₄ 3²/₄ 4²/₃ 3⁴/₄ 2¹/₂

18 Oct/25 3M1 fst670 292 583 1:26.4 1:54 Qua 3 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂

27 Sep/25 4Dm fst800 263 555 1:22.4 1:51.1 D-OHSS 300000 1 4²/₃ 4⁴/₅ 6³/₄ 1¹/₂ 8⁵/₈

6 Sep/25 15ScD fst550 271 564 1:24.2 1:51.4 OHSS 2C 50000 8 7⁸/₈ 6⁷/₈ 6⁸/₈ 6⁷/₈ 5⁶/₈

30 Aug/25 11ScD fst660 264 552 1:24 1:51.2 OHSS 2C 50000 2 2¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 3³/₄

Br.- Frederick W Hertrich III, DE

AnMcCarthy Aalambert 272 271 281 273 1:50.2 101

PaRyder Aalambert 274 284 282 263 1:51.1 94

PaRyder Aalambert 292 291 281 271 1:52.4

AMerrim Aalambert 271 283 273 291 1:53.3 96

AMerrim Aalambert 284 293 274 264 1:53.3 94

AMerrim Aalambert 281 282 283 28 1:52 98

6.10 GntmCndDpThPcAPhnc

14.30 TmHm GntmCndC Avellino

nb GntmCndC HmHntr Hunknxi

13.80 LnyDragn WhnPrb Backntr

18.70 LnyDragn OdsGr CoodStat

1.20 PstPct Backntr GntmCndC

+0.7w

+5.6w

+8.7w

+11.5w

+9.5w

Bsh,ld,psl 1/2,handy-7

Rode rail,stay lane-8

Ld,won handy-3

-9

-8

-8

4 FRAGMENT

21:50.7 (7/8) \$38,838 SHS-HBG \$80,000

b c 2, by Huntsville, The Show Returns by Rocknroll Hanover

Enblom Stb LLC, Wrightston, NJ; D E Sipple, Georgetown, DE; Peaceful Acre Fm, York, PA

Last 5 Sts-\$282,550

1:50 VD 7/8

25 M1

0 0 0 0

-25

+15

9 2 0

\$582,566

-24 Tot

0 0 0 0

-Life

15 9 2 0

\$582,566

5-2 J. Bartlett

333-73-63-43 (219)

6 Nov/25 12DD fst500 263 561 1:23.2 1:52.3 MATRON 20P 122600 5 2¹/₂ 3¹/₂ 3¹/₂ 1³/₄ 1³/₄

24 Oct/25 9Wbs fst410 271 54 1:21.4 1:48.3 BRDRS CROW 700000 10 10¹⁰/₁₀ 10¹⁰/₁₀ 10¹⁰/₁₀ 10¹⁰/₁₀ 10¹⁰/₁₀

17 Oct/25 7Wbs fst500 252 524 1:21 1:48.4 BRDRS CROW 25000 4 4⁵/₈ 4⁵/₈ 4⁵/₈ 4⁵/₈ 2¹/₂

11 Oct/25 7VD fst650 254 552 1:24 1:50 BIG APPLE 250000 6 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂

4 Oct/25 8VD fst770 271 554 1:24.1 1:51.1 BIG APPLE 20000 1 4³/₄ 3³/₄ 4²/₃ 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂

20 Sep/25 8Wbs fst570 264 541 1:22.1 1:49.1 Metro 730000 9 8¹/₂ 8¹/₂ 8¹/₂ 8¹/₂ 6³/₄

Br.- Stewart, KY; Black Creek Fm, IN; M Robinson, OH

JaBartlett PeEngblom 264 274 27 29 1:49.3 93

PeEngblom PeEngblom 291 271 261 1:52.1 106

JaBartlett PeEngblom 263 272 274 272 1:49 110

JaBartlett PeEngblom 254 293 283 26 1:50 108

JaBartlett PeEngblom 271 281 284 262 1:51 100

JaBartlett PeEngblom 281 274 274 261 1:50 105

0.70 Fragment Apocypsb ThaiHv

49.15 Beauljngs AlPapi Melillo

2.95 BmndBlvd Fragment AlPapi

0.15 Fragment HntngGly GhostHnt

0.05 Fragment Lakwld Quickaway

48.35 Beauljngs FranchHv SwtLynLo

+8.7w

+11.5w

+9.5w

+9.5w

+9.5w

Trail,du,ld-8

3d ov,gd,try-8

-9

-5

-8

-8

5 TALBOT ANDRETTI

\$2,983 SHS-HBG \$100,000

br c 2, by Sweet Lou, Hot Spot Hanover by Well Said

Marvin J Rounick,Narberth,PA

Last 5 Sts-\$17,475

1:50.2 Cbr 5/8

25 M1

0 0 0 0

-25

+15

9 2 0

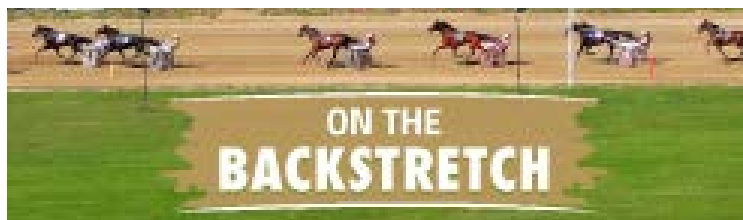
\$32,813

-24 Tot

0 0 0 0

-Life

11 0 2 1



BY DERICK GIWNER

Johnathan Ahle was working in the restaurant industry when a fellow employee who happened to be the daughter of trainer Shaun Vallee mentioned he needed help. About a decade later Ahle has turned into one of the top winter drivers at The Meadowlands and currently ranks eighth in wins at the New Jersey track in 2025.

In his first three full years of racing, Ahle has amassed almost 900 wins in the bike and averaged over \$3,000,000 in earnings for his drives. The New Jersey native even picked up his first stakes win in the Kindergarten at The Meadowlands.

On an off day for racing, Ahle took the time to discuss his path in the sport from groom to amateur driver to catch driver and racing in general. Enjoy!

DRIVER JOHNATHAN AHLE

How did you get started in harness racing?

I started working for Shaun Vallee as a groom. I was just out of high school and working at a restaurant at the time.

Shaun would go to Australia over the winter to meet friends and buy some horses. They were shorthanded. I knew nothing about horses but I could clean a feed tub and muck stalls. You don't need to be a horseman to figure that out.

How long did you work for Vallee before you decided racing was going to be your career?

I really liked working with horses pretty much right away. That is why I veered off the restaurant industry path. [Working with horses] was like nothing I've ever done before. It was intriguing and I loved it.

Growing up in New Jersey, there are multiple tracks and lots of farms. Did you even know harness racing existed?

I knew it existed but I never thought about it or watched it. I went to Monmouth maybe once when I was a teenager for an afternoon. I had no interest and knew nothing about it. I wouldn't have been able to tell you the difference between a trotter and pacer or a thoroughbred.

In addition to spending time working for Vallee you've also worked for trainer Noel Daley. What lessons did they teach you?

I really owe a lot to them. Shaun taught me everything from the ground up, from the basics of how to harness a horse and stuff like that. He has a smaller stable and didn't do stakes horses. Working for Noel was like starting new again, with breaking babies and stuff like that. I had broken a handful with Shaun but not like with Noel where we would break 30 or 40 a year. Between them I experienced the full spectrum of learning the business from the training side.

Your driving career began as an amateur. How vital was that to your driving career and to the sport as a whole?

It's highly unlikely I would've become a driver without it. For the sport, as long as it stays safe, it helps fill the box and the bettors seem to like it. I think it is good for the sport.

After starting your full-time career in 2022, you hit a peak of 374 wins and \$3.4 million in earnings in 2024. Your numbers are down a bit this year. Any reason?

I haven't looked at the stats but I assume I have less starts. I did less travelling to Maryland [Rosecroft]. I wanted to focus on racing closer to home. Driving three-plus hours one way is tough to do a couple of days a week. I tried to prioritize Chester [Harrah's Philadelphia] and Meadowlands because they are closer.

By contrast, you've been red hot of late at The Meadowlands, sitting third in wins since the meet reopened in October. Are you enjoying the ride?

Oh yeah. It is a lot of fun. The sport is always up and down whether you are a driver or a trainer but it has been good to have a good streak.

Personally I think you've grown dramatically as a driver over the last year. Do you feel or see any difference?

100 percent. I think if you ask anyone, after a certain amount of time and practice you get better. You can always improve. It is all about experience and driving more races.

How hard was it to start from scratch and become a catch driver making a decent living?

It includes a lot of the same difficulties anyone would have. You need to put the time and effort in. I think in a way it was good for me. I was a bit older and a blank slate.

What is your favorite track to race at and why?

The Meadowlands is the most fun place to have a good night or win races.

What is your favorite thing to do outside of harness racing?

I like surfing and snowboarding. I

went out for a surf today in Belmar.

Isn't it like 45 degrees out today? You surf in that weather?

With wetsuits and all the gear you stay warm.

What is one word that describes harness racing for you?

Exciting.

What was your best moment in harness racing?

I won the Kindergarten final a couple of weeks back with Busy Miss Lissy. That was my biggest win.



LISA PHOTO

Johnathan Ahle is third in driver wins at The Meadowlands since mid-October and eighth for all of 2025.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 13](#)



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

You had multiple drives in the Kindergarten finals including the win. How thrilled are you with getting some stakes drives now?

That is what most drivers strive for, to progress and hopefully make it onto that stage. For me it was just being in the right place at the right time. A lot of the guys were travelling for the stakes season and they couldn't be everywhere.

You are just 28 years old. How do you see your future in harness racing?

Hopefully I can keep progressing and stay healthy.

Do you see yourself as a Grand Circuit driver down the road?

I'm certainly hopeful for it. I don't think it is impossible.

How do you view the future of harness racing?

There are tracks closing down here and there and you never want to see that. It is not a good sign. I wouldn't say I'm worried at the moment but 10 years from now I don't know if I'd answer the same.

What does a day in the life of Johnathan Ahle look like?

Wake up and go race horses.

Do you go to the barn at all in the morning or just the tracks to drive?

I really haven't but I think the time will come soon where Noel will call me once the babies are training and I'll go there once a week during the winter. Winters are much slower and I won't be racing that much. Plus I really enjoy training the babies. Maybe I'll help someone else if they need it.

Time for the stretch drive.

Best Horse you ever saw: Bulldog Hanover – There are so many that are great or amazing in their own way but he's got the fastest mark for Standardbreds.

Lasix – Yes or No: Yes.

Favorite TV Show: I really don't watch TV. RTN probably.

Trotters or Pacers: Trotters but I like both.



Busy Miss Lissy was driven to back to back Kindergarten wins by Johnathan Ahle.

LISA PHOTO



2025 HOLIDAY ISSUE



Send a holiday greeting to the harness community or thank those that helped you succeed in 2025.

Booking Deadline: December 15 | Email: Dgiwner@drf.com



James MacDonald captures 2025 World Driving Championship

Canadian representative James MacDonald was crowned the 2025 World Driving Champion during the final leg of the competition at Addington Raceway in Christchurch, New Zealand, on Tuesday, Nov. 11.

MacDonald secured the 2025 World Driving Championship title with a seventh-place finish behind the Korbyn Newman-trained trotter Alotof-troble in the 20th and final race of the tournament, which began on Sunday, Nov. 2 and was contested over six race days across New Zealand tracks.

Australia's Gary Hall Jr. led throughout the first five races over two legs at Kaikoura Trotting Club in Kaikoura with MacDonald climbing from sixth-place to second in the point standings before taking the lead at the start of the third leg at Cambridge Raceway in Cambridge with his first of two driving victories on the day.

MacDonald picked up another driving win and maintained his place atop the leaderboard during leg four at Addington Raceway in Christchurch and nearly had the title wrapped up by the end of the fifth leg at Central Southland Raceway in Winton as he consistently earned points throughout the competition.

Back at Addington Raceway on Tuesday during New Zealand Cup Day, with just one race scheduled for the last leg of the tournament, MacDonald finalized the result and delivered Canada another World Driving Championship title.

Canadian drivers have now won four of the 11 World Driving Championships contested in the 21st century -- the most out of all countries for that period -- and a total of six times since the international harness driving competition was first held in 1970. MacDonald has earned two of those titles, having previously won the 2017 World Driving Championship when Canada last hosted the biennial event. A native of Prince Edward Island based in Guelph, Ontario, the 39-year-old will get the opportunity to defend his title on home soil when Canada hosts the next World Driving Championship at tracks across the country in 2027.

The reigning four-time O'Brien Award winner as Canada's Driver of the Year, MacDonald has driven winners of 4,282 races and nearly C\$85 million in purses in North America during his career, including 444 races and more than C\$12.3 million during a career-year in 2024.

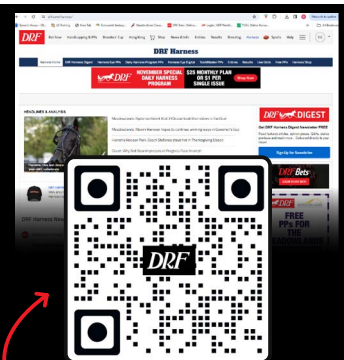
The final point standings for the 2025 World Driving Championship are listed below.

2025 World Driving Championship Final Point Standings

Rank - Driver - Country - Points

1. James MacDonald - Canada - 168
2. Gary Hall Jr. - Australia - 151
3. Jaap Van Rijn - The Netherlands - 141
4. Blair Orange - New Zealand - 136
5. Mats Djuse - Sweden - 132
6. Pierre Vercruysse - France - 120
7. Michael Nimczyk - Germany - 119
8. Brett Beckwith - United States - 115
9. Giampaolo Minnucci - Italy - 112
10. Santtu Raitala - Finland - 104

-release (Standardbred Canada)




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HANDICAPPER'S CORNER

At DRF Harness we strive to provide the best handicapping information in the sport. Each week we'll use this space to bring you some of our handicappers' best bets and value plays. Use this information as one of your tools when wagering or head to your nearest ADW and simply make a win bet.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

RACE 6

(5) BLESS ME FATHER missed four weeks of action before his last start and was handled extremely conservatively. It also didn't help that the fractions were slow with a 59 4/5 middle half. I expect we'll see what's in the tank this week.

-Derick Gwerner



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

RACE 4

(6) MALICIA SPEED worked out what was thought to be a good pocket trip before the pace setter came to a walk at the head of the lane and this filly basically got taken out of the mile and had no room to get out. She draws well and will be a major threat.

-John Rallis



RACE 7

(5) LOUIES GIRL N is perfect through five U.S. starts with each win looking stronger than the last. She makes her way to the top level and there's softer competition than usual for this class, making her quest even easier tonight.

-Matt Rose



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

RACE 7

(1) ERVIN HANOVER has looked like a man versus boys over the last couple of months and I see no signs of that ending.

-Gwerner



FULL CARD ANALYSIS / PAST PERFORMANCES

Mohawk Park Analysis [Friday](#) [Saturday](#)

Meadowlands Analysis [Thursday](#) [Friday](#) [Saturday](#)

Yonkers Analysis [Thursday](#) [Friday](#)

DHP PPS

HARNESS EYE PPS

TRACKMASTER PPS

FREE PPS

INSTANT RACING UPDATES VIA TWITTER: @DRFHARNES

NEWS FROM AROUND THE HARNESS INDUSTRY

THREE NEW SIRES FROM DR. J STALLION MANAGEMENT COMING IN 2026

Dr. J Stallion Management has added three new stallions to their roster for the 2026 breeding season. Abuckabett Hanover, the 2024 Dan Patch Older Pacing Horse of the Year, will stand the 2026 breeding season at Tara Hills Farm in Port Perry, Ontario for an introductory stud fee of \$4,000 CDN while the state of Ohio will welcome 2023 Milstein Winner and Little Brown Jug runner-up Seven Colors in addition to the royally bred Vic Zelenskyy, both standing at Crystal Springs Stables in Millersburg. Seven Colors will stand for \$2,500 USD and Vic Zelenskyy for \$2,000 USD.

[READ MORE](#)

MONTICELLO HORSEMEN DONATE TO FEDERATION OF THE HOMELESS

For the last decade the Monticello Harness Horsemen Association (MHHA) has donated to the Federation of the Homeless. On Wednesday, November 12 after the third race, which was a North American Amateur Driving Association (NAADA) race, the MHHA made their annual donation of \$2,500 to the Sullivan County Federation of the Homeless Food Pantry.

-edited release (Monticello Raceway)

ABUCKABETT HANOVER RETIREMENT CEREMONY ON SATURDAY

Harness racing's biggest stars will battle on the track this Saturday, November 15, in the 2025 FanDuel Championships & Fall Final Four Finals at the Meadowlands Racetrack.

For the last few years, retirement ceremonies have become the norm on this night of racing, and 2025 is no different.

Seven-year-old Abuckabett Hanover will be honored in the Meadowlands winner's circle following his final start in the FanDuel Championship Pace Final (Race 7).

"Bucky has changed my life. I am incredibly blessed to have had the opportunity to work with him," trainer Andrew Harris stated. "I'll miss him in the barn, but I'm happy he will go on to a new chapter, which he will be excited about. Thank you, Bucky!"

Abuckabett Hanover, aka Bucky, the 2024 Dan Patch winner with over \$2.1 million in earnings, has recorded stakes wins in Potomac Pace, Dayton Derby, William Haughton Memorial, Dave Brower Memorial, and Tattersall Pace. He also took home the 2024 FanDuel Championship.

"Abuckabett Hanover had a tremendous 2024," Meadowlands COO & GM Jason Settlemyre said. "I am grateful I was able to watch him capture three of our major stakes races in 2024. He has been a great race horse for co-owner William Pollock and I appreciate all the positive energy he (Pollock) has brought to the sport over these last few years."

-edited release (Meadowlands)

DE VALLEY USHWA ACCEPTING NOMS FOR ANNUAL CARETAKER AWARD

The Delaware Valley Chapter of the United States Harness Writers Association is currently accepting nominations for its sixth Annual Caretaker of the Year Award.

The award is designed to recognize a caretaker/groom who works primarily in Delaware, Maryland, or Virginia, for a trainer in good standing. He/she must have a current groom's license in one of those states and cannot currently be training horses.

To nominate a caretaker/groom for this award, trainers are required to submit a nomination letter (200 word minimum) explaining why a caretaker/groom from your stable deserves the award. Suggested areas of emphasis include punctuality, reliability, and initiative. Nominators are asked to include the groom's name, address, and phone number, along with your name and phone number.

Caretakers/grooms are often the unsung heroes of the sport, and this award memorializes their dedication.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, Dec. 12. All nominations should be submitted via email to devalleyushwa88@gmail.com. The winner will receive a \$250 award courtesy of the Delaware Valley Chapter of USHWA at the annual Delaware Standardbred Owners Association banquet on Jan. 16, 2026.

-release (Delaware Valley USHWA)

BOOKS OPEN FOR DR. J STALLION MANAGEMENT HORSES

The books for the stallions managed by Dr. J Stallion Management are now open. The following stallions are available in 2026:

INDIANA:

Oh Well**NEW** - Stud Fee \$4,000 – shares available

Sippinonsearoc **NEW** - Stud Fee \$7,500 – shares available

OHIO:

Carbine- Stud Fee \$2,500- Multiple Mare and Loyalty Discounts Available
Rockyroad Hanover - Stud Fee \$5,500- Multiple Mare and Loyalty Discounts Available

Seven Colors **NEW** Stud Fee \$2,500 – shares available

Vic Zelenskyy** NEW** Stud Fee \$2,000

ONTARIO:

Abuckabett Hanover**NEW** Stud Fee \$4,000 CND – shares available
It's Academic – Stud Fee \$6,000 CND- Multiple Mare and Loyalty Discounts Available

PENNSYLVANIA:

Sig Sauer – Stud Fee \$8,000

Please visit www.drjstallionmanagement.com or contact Dr. J at (717) 578-7395 or drjablonsky@drjstallionmanagement.com for more information on these stallions or to book your mare.

-edited release (Dr J Stallion Management)

BREEDINGS SOUGHT TO BENEFIT NEW VOCATIONS

New Vocations Racehorse Adoption Program is currently organizing its 28th Annual Stallion Auction to be held via OnGait.com Feb 3-5, 2026. The Standardbred Transition Alliance accredited charity offers retiring racehorses and broodmares a safety-net through rehabilitation, retraining, and placement in carefully screened and monitored homes.

New Vocations embraces racing and the excitement and joy of racehorse ownership. At the conclusion of a horse's racing career, New Vocations stands ready to assist with its aftercare needs. "We rehabilitate the horses, break them to ride and care for them until a qualified adopter can be found," said Executive Director Dot Morgan. "Then we educate the adopters on the characteristics of racehorses, answer myriads of questions, encourage them through problems and offer training guidelines. New Vocations adoptees may be returned at any time, for any reason throughout their life."

The stallion auction is New Vocations' most important Standardbred fundraiser of the year and a perfect opportunity for stallion owners to show their support of aftercare. If you don't have a breeding to offer, please consider a monetary donation.

To donate a breeding, please email dot@horseadoption.com or call (937) 205-4667. Monetary donations can be made through the website at www.NewVocations.org or sent to New Vocations, 719 Dolan Lane, Lexington KY 40511. To maximize advertising, breedings need to be received as soon as possible. However, breedings will be accepted right up until the auction and throughout the spring.

-release (New Vocations)

MEADOWLANDS SATURDAY CARD TO BE NATIONALLY TELEVISED

The final big night of stakes action on harness racing's 2025 calendar – Fall Final Four/FanDuel Championships Night – takes place Saturday (Nov. 15) night at the sport's No. 1 venue, The Meadowlands. In addition, the TV team at the New York Racing Association (NYRA) will combine forces with FOX Sports to bring those races to a national television audience on FOX Sports 2 (FS2), with a three-hour presentation that gets underway at 8 p.m.

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ILLINOIS NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS AT HAWTHORNE SATURDAY

Throughout the course of the summer, Illinois-bred trotters and pacers have been earning points toward Saturday's Night of Champions at Hawthorne. Twelve finals are set to be contested with over \$1.1 million in purses.

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